

CPSA 6 (b)(1) Cleared
09/13/96
No Adversely Affecting
Products Identified
Excepted by _____
Firms Notified, _____
Comments Processed, _____

LOG OF MEETING

SUBJECT: Mattress/Bedding Flammability

DATE: September 9, 1996

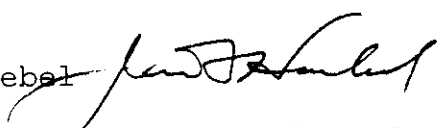
PLACE: Consumer Product Safety Commission, Bethesda, MD

NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES:

Russell L. Abolt, International Sleep Products Association
Patricia Martin, Sleep Products Safety Council
Philip Wakelyn, National Cotton Council
Julie Johnston, Allbright & Wilson
Maureen Sislo, Product Safety Letter

COMMISSION ATTENDEES:

Barbara Jacobson, EH
James F. Hoebel, ES
Pat Fairall, CE
Marilyn Borsari, CE
Rikki Khanna, ES

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: James F. Hoebel 

SUMMARY: The purpose of this meeting was to introduce the industry representatives and the CPSC Project Manager, Ms. Jacobson.

The ISPA represents the mattress and bedding industry, and has been closely involved with CPSC and mattress flammability regulation since its inception in the late 1960s, when the Department of Commerce first considered flammability regulation. SPSC was formed in 1986 by ISPA to coordinate the industry's safety and health activities.

Ms. Martin described the SPSC support of the National Association of State Fire Marshals to conduct a survey of mattress fires to develop detailed information on fire scenarios. SPSC suspects that hand-me-down and renovated mattresses are involved in many current mattress cigarette-ignited fires, helping to explain the continued observation of fires. They plan to field test the survey in September, followed by investigator training in October and survey initiation later. They hope to collect data from 500 fires in three cities (New York, Chicago, and Seattle). They supplied CPSC staff with a copy of their draft survey instrument, and hoped that CPSC staff could provide comments by the end of the week.

CPSC general project plans were presented by Ms. Jacobson. The collection of field fire data has been completed and the report is being reviewed and cleared. The report is intended to help staff learn why cigarette-ignited mattress fires continue at a relatively high rate and whether regulation of open-flame hazards is reasonable. SPSC is most anxious to see the report.

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SPSC plans to meet with the CPSC Commissioners on September 24, 1996, to review the mattress/bedding fire issue and their survey plans. They would be accompanied by their consultant Gordon Damant.

CPSC staff requested that ISPA/SPSC arrange a local plant tour for the project team.